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NINETY-SEVENTH CONGRESS

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

GOVERNMENT INFORMATION AND INDIVIDUAL RIGHTS SUBCOMMITTEE

OF THE
COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS
RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING, ROOM B-349-B-C

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515

March 1, 1982

Honorable William J. Casey Director Central Intelligence Agency Washington, D. C. 20505

Dear Mr. Casey:

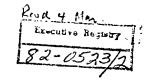
I am returning with this letter the February 24, 1982, report of Harry Fitzwater, Deputy Director for Administration. The report is purportedly submitted under the requirements of the Freedom of Information Act. Subsection (d)(3) of the Act requires that each agency's annual report of FOIA activities contain the names and titles of each person responsible for the denial of records requested under the Act and the number of instances that each person denied a request. As you can see, the report of Mr. Fitzwater fails to contain the names as required by law.

Previous Chairmen of the Subcommittee on Government Information and Individual Rights permitted the CIA to file the names of officials responsible for denials separately from the main agency FOIA report. I understand that this procedure was requested by the CIA in order to avoid public identification of CIA employees who might possibly engage in covert activities in the future. I am not aware that there have been any problems arising out of this separate filing, and I would have accepted the required information under the same terms as previous Chairmen had it been offered.

The report supplied for 1981 contains no names, only employee numbers. It is not only useless for oversight purposes, but it fails to meet the clearly stated requirement of the law. It is unacceptable to this subcommittee. I am equally disturbed that the CIA changed an agreed upon procedure without informing me or indicating the reasons for the change.

THOMAS N. KINDNESS, OHIO JOHN N. ERLENBORN, ILL. WENDELL BAILEY, MO.

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-2-

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If additional security arrangements for the names of CIA officials are warranted, I will be glad to discuss them with you or your staff. However, I will not accept information that fails to comply with the law and that prevents the subcommittee from carrying out its oversight functions.

Sincerely,

Ølenn Englist Chairman

GE:bg:bm

cc: Hon. Jack Brooks

Hon. Edward Boland Hon. Thomas Kindness